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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,523	04/07/2004	Jamil Kawa	SNPS-0546	8342
36503	7590	03/23/2006	EXAMINER	
SYNOPSYS, INC. c/o A. RICHARD PARK, REG. NO. 41241 PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP 2820 FIFTH STREET DAVIS, CA 95616-2419			KIK, PHALLAKA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2825	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/820,523	Applicant(s) KAWA, JAMIL ET AL.	
	Examiner Phallaka Kik	Art Unit 2825	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action responds to the Application filed on 4/7/2004. Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1-24 have been examined.

Ex Parte Quayle

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

The objections of claims 1-24 due the noted minor informalities as given the section paragraph 3 below and the objection to the specification due to the noted minor informalities as given section paragraph 4 below.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 1-24** are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per **claims 1,9,17**, "can be" (lines 11, 13, 13 respectively) should be --are-- to clearly identify what is being claimed.

As per **claims 2,10,18**, "can be" (line 3) should be --are-- to clearly identify what is being claimed.

As per **claims 4,12,20**, "can" (lines 2, 3, 3 respectively) should be deleted, to clearly identify what is being claimed. Also as per **claim 12**, --wherein-- should be inserted before "the method" (line 1) for greater clarification.

As per **claims 14,15**, --wherein-- should be inserted before "the method" (line 1) for greater clarification.

As per **claims 2-8,10-16,18-24**, the claims are also objected to for incorporating the above errors into the respective claims by claim dependency.

Appropriate correction is required.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The serial numbers and the date of the referenced co-pending applications are missing (see paragraphs [0008] and [0001]).

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. **Claims 1-24** would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections due to the noted minor informalities, set forth in this Office action.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As per **claims 1-24**, the independent claims 1,9,17, from which the respective claims depend, recite the method/computer-readable storage medium storing instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a method/apparatus for creating a mask-programmable module from standard cells, comprising the inventive steps/mechanisms for combining and designing, as claimed, which the prior art made of record failed to teach or suggest. In particular, the various prior arts made of record teach the methods/systems for creating mask-programmable

devices including ASICs, involving the use of standard cells and other cells from the various custom libraries (see especially **Tan et al.**, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0111691, especially paragraphs [0012], [0027]; **Whitaker et al.** U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0200510, especially paragraph [0042]; **Cohn et al.**, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0133791, especially paragraphs [0014], [0039]; **Baxter**, U.S. Patent No. 5,752,006, especially col. 10, lines 30-61; **Powell**, U.S. Patent No. 5,526,278, especially col. 3, lines 33-48 and col. 5, lines 1-27). However, none of the prior arts made of record teach or suggest the inventive steps/means as claimed. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and un-obvious over the prior arts made of record.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phallaka Kik whose telephone number is 571-272-1895. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:30AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2825

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

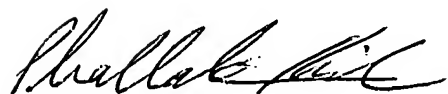
Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to:

571-273-8300



Phallaka Kik
U.S. Patent Examiner
March 19, 2006